

9/24/76

DEPARTMENT OF STATE 9/24/76

24 Sep 76  
1855
 INDICATE  
☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

## TELEGRAM

FROM  
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

CLASSIFICATION

11652:  
TAGS:  
SUBJECT:GDS  
CASC, AR (ERB, PATRICIA ANN)  
W/W ARREST OF PATRICIA ANN ERB

CU 125

ACTION:

SECSTATE WASHDC ~~SECRET~~ PRIORITY

UNCLASSIFIED

REF :

BUENOS AIRES: 6307

BUENOS AIRES 6175

 AMB  
 DCM  
 CONS  
 POL  
 USIS  
 SY  
 LEGATT  
 RF  
 CHRON  
 DAO

 1. IN EFFORT TO DETERMINE WHEREABOUTS OF PATRICIA ERB, EMBOFFS  
 FORMALLY ARGENTINE  
 HAVE/CONTACTED THE FOLLOWING OFFICIALS/ORGANIZATIONS:

 PRESIDENT OF ARGENTINA,  
 MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS,  
 MINISTER OF ECONOMY,  
 SECRETARY TO MINISTER OF INTERIOR,  
 CHIEF OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE,  
 JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL AIR FORCE,  
 CHIEF AIR FORCE INTELLIGENCE,  
~~CHIEF OF SECURITY FEDERAL POLICE~~  
 INTELLIGENCE CORPS HEADQUARTERS ARMY,  
 DIRECTOR FEDERAL SECURITY, FEDERAL POLICE,  
 CHIEF OF INTELLIGENCE, BUENOS AIRES PROVINCIAL POLICE,

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

☒ Release ( ) Excise ( ) Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: ( ) In Part ☒ In Full

( ) Classify as ( ) Extend as ( ) Downgrade to

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Declassify on \_\_\_\_\_ Reason \_\_\_\_\_

DRAFTED BY:

CONS: GJWitman:eg

DRAFTING DATE

9-23-76

TEL. EXT.

213

CONTENTS AND CLASSIFICATION APPROVED BY:

AMB:RCH111

CLEARANCES:

CONS: WWHitchcock

POL: WSmith

LEGATT: Scherrer

DAO: Coughlin

SY: DTanner

DCM: MChaplin

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80F178

21/185

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SEVERAL OFFICERS OF ARMY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE,

SEVERAL OFFICERS OF STATE SECRETARIAT FOR INFORMATION,  
OFFICERS OF NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS DIVISION OF FOREIGN MINISTRY  
CHIEF FEDERAL PRISONS,

DIRECTOR PENITENTIARY, VILLA DEVOTO, BUENOS AIRES,

POLICE OFFICIALS 43RD PRECINCT BUENOS AIRES,

SUB CHIEF OF POLICE ROSARIO,

OFFICIALS 2ND ARMY CORPS ROSARIO,

OFFICIALS 3RD ARMY CORPS CORDOBA,

CHIEF OF POLICE CORDOBA,

2. FIRST INQUIRIES WERE MADE WITHIN 30 MINUTES OF FATHER'S  
NOTIFICATION TO EMBASSY OF DAUGHTER'S ABDUCTION.

3. WE HAVE ALSO MADE MANY INFORMAL INQUIRIES THROUGH UNOFFICIAL  
EMBASSY CONTACTS ON BEHALF OF MISS ERB.

4. ONE INDICATION THAT SHE WAS TAKEN BY ~~OFFICIAL GROUP~~ <sup>ELEMENTS OF GOA SECURITY FORCES</sup> WAS REPORT

THAT MAID OF ERB FAMILY OVERHEARD ONE OF THE ABDUCTORS SAY THEY HAD

GOTTEN PATRICIA'S NAME FROM ONE OF HER FRIENDS IN PRISON (REPORTED

IN EMBASSY'S FIRST TELEGRAM ON ABDUCTION, <sup>BA-5976</sup> ~~RE: 9/14/76~~ 9/14/76). ANOTHER

INDICATION OF OFFICIAL INVOLVEMENT IS REPORT OF NEIGHBOR ACCORDING

TO MISS ERB'S FATHER. WHILE ABDUCTION WAS TAKING PLACE NEIGHBOR

UNIFORMED  
WAS INSTRUCTED BY POLICEMAN TO REMAIN IN HIS HOUSE WHEN HE TRIED TO

LEAVE. WHEN THE NEIGHBOR PHONED THE LOCAL POLICE PRECINCT, HE WAS

TOLD NOT TO WORRY BECAUSE IT WAS POLICE OPERATION. IN ADDITION,

NEIGHBORS REPORTED THAT INTERSECTIONS LEADING TO ERB HOME WERE BLOCKED

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BY WHAT APPEARED TO BE POLICE UNITS.

5. Foregoing information for Dept's information and should not rpt not be used for press background briefing. If Miss Erb is being held by elements of security forces, publicized accusations of official complicity in her abduction could endanger her life.

6. Embassy will continue efforts to locate Miss Erb.

HILL

*WS. Cleared by Phone*

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